## **REMARKS**

The rejection to the claims is moot in view of their cancellation. Claims 18-21 are allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form to include any base and intervening claims. Claims 18-21 have been rewritten in this manner and are now allowable. New claim 26 has been added, support for which may be found beginning on page 3, line 27.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122018800.

Dated: November 5, 2004

Respectfully submitted.

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